

HOUSE BILL No. 1651

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-10.1-30.

Synopsis: Honorary diploma for veterans. Provides that a veteran of World War II who: (1) attended high school in Indiana before entering military service; (2) because of the military service did not graduate from high school; and (3) was honorably discharged; or a surviving spouse or other relative of such a veteran, may apply for a high school diploma issued by the Indiana state board of education. Requires the department of education to process the applications and, in consultation with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs, assist the high school from which the veteran would have graduated, or its successor high school, in organizing suitable exercises to recognize the awarding of the diploma.

Effective: July 1, 2001.

GiaQuinta

January 17, 2001, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Policy, Ethics and Veterans Affairs.

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First Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2001)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2000 General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1651

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-10.1-30 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2001]:

4 **Chapter 30. High School Diplomas for Certain Veterans**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "eligible veteran" refers to an**
6 **individual who:**

7 (1) **served as a member of the armed forces of the United**
8 **States at any time between September 16, 1940, and**
9 **December 31, 1946;**

10 (2) **before the military service described in subdivision (1)**
11 **attended a high school in Indiana;**

12 (3) **because of the military service described in subdivision (1),**
13 **did not graduate from high school; and**

14 (4) **was honorably discharged from the armed forces of the**
15 **United States.**

16 **Sec. 2. (a) An eligible veteran may apply to the department to**
17 **receive a high school diploma under this chapter.**



(b) An individual who is:

- (1) the surviving spouse of; or
- (2) otherwise related to;

an eligible veteran who is deceased may apply to receive a high school diploma on behalf of the eligible veteran under this chapter.

(c) An eligible veteran who has received a general education development diploma may receive a high school diploma under this chapter.

Sec. 3. To receive a high school diploma under this chapter, an eligible veteran or individual described in section 2(b) of this chapter must:

- (1) complete an application with the department;
- (2) provide a copy of the eligible veteran's honorable discharge with the application; and
- (3) submit the application to the department.

Sec. 4. (a) Upon receipt of an application, the department shall verify the accuracy of the information contained in the application.

(b) If the application contains accurate information, the department shall notify:

- (1) the high school from which the eligible veteran would have graduated, or, if the high school no longer exists, the successor high school serving the area in which the original high school was located;
- (2) the board; and
- (3) the Indiana department of veterans' affairs;

of the request for a high school diploma.

(c) The department and the Indiana department of veterans' affairs shall assist a high school described in subsection (b) in developing suitable exercises to recognize the awarding of a high school diploma to an eligible veteran or individual described in section 2(b) of this chapter.

Sec. 5. The board shall design and issue a high school diploma for eligible veterans under this chapter.

Sec. 6. (a) The department shall consult with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs in carrying out this chapter.

(b) The department may not charge a fee to process an application or to award a high school diploma under this chapter.

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